

<b>RESPONSE</b>	Application #	09/709,421	<b>RECEIVED</b>
	Confirmation #	4291	<b>CENTRAL FAX CENTER</b>
	Filing Date	November 13, 2000	APR 28 2004
	First Inventor	NIVET	
	Art Unit	2121	
	Examiner	R. Patel	
	Docket #	P06978US00/RFH	<b>OFFICIAL</b>

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R:

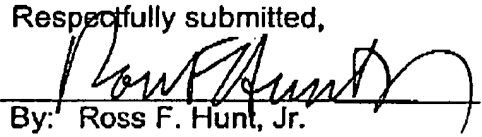
Responsive to the Office Action mailed on October 24, 2003:

A) please consider the responsive **Remarks** provided herewith in **Attachment A**; and

It is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 24, 2004

  
By: Ross F. Hunt, Jr.

Registration No.: 24,082

**STITES & HARBISON PLC** • 1199 North Fairfax St. • Suite 900 • Alexandria, VA 22314  
TEL: 703-739-4900 • FAX: 703-739-9577 • EMAIL: [iplaw@larsontaylor.com](mailto:iplaw@larsontaylor.com) • CUSTOMER NO. 000881